

Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention provides a method and system for improving data access of a reliable file system. In a first aspect of the invention, the file system determines the relative vacancy of a collection of storage blocks, herein called an “allocation area”. This is accomplished by recording an array of binary numbers. Each binary number in the array describes the vacancy of a collection of storage blocks. The file system examines these binary numbers when attempting to record file blocks in relatively contiguous areas on a storage medium, such as a hard disk. When a request to write to disk occurs, the system determines the average vacancy of all the allocation areas and queries the allocation areas for individual vacancy rates such as sequentially. The system preferably writes file blocks to the allocation areas that are above a threshold related to the average storage block vacancy of the file system. If the file in the request to write is larger than the selected allocation area, the next allocation area above the threshold is preferably used to write the remaining blocks of the file.